Verbs

Action verbs show the physical or mental action of the subject.

physical action: The birds fluttered around in the glass aviary.
mental action: We trust in the Lord our God.

Being verbs show existence—they simply state something about the subject. There are eight being verbs: am, is, are, was, were, be, being, and been.

Tom's dog Beethoven is in the animal hospital.

Helping verbs help the main verb make a statement. A helping verb together with the main verb is a verb phrase. The being verbs are sometimes used as helping verbs.

I have been reading about Thomas Edison.
Jared and Leon are working on their go-cart.
They may be late for the meeting.

A verb phrase is sometimes interrupted by adverbs such as not or never.

I should not have read so late last night.

The subject of an interrogative sentence usually interrupts the verb phrase.

What did Edison accomplish?

| The Helping Verbs |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Being Verbs       | Sometimes Helping | Always Helping |
| am | were | have | do | shall | might | could |
| is | be | has | does | will | must | should |
| are | being | had | did | may | can | would |
| was | been | | | |

Underline the verbs or verb phrases. Write action or being.

1. ____________ Mother's Day will be next Sunday.
2. ____________ I love the Lord with all my heart.
3. ____________ Kent and Andy will pitch the tent after supper.
4. ____________ Christine's friend Tamara has not been to Sunday school for three weeks.
5. ____________ Tim's plane should be arriving in approximately twenty minutes.
6. ____________ Have you ever been to Niagara Falls?
7. ____________ Mark has been faithfully doing Joel's chores all week.
Tell what each type of verb does.

8. action verb
9. being verb
10. helping verb

We Remember

Match the punctuation mark with its use.

11. _____ Please bring the following: a. period
12. _____ ketchup, mustard, and mayonnaise b. comma
13. _____ Surprise! c. exclamation point
14. _____ hand-me-down clothes d. apostrophe
15. _____ Mrs. Ray M. Vandevander e. quotation marks
16. _____ earth’s shadow f. colon
17. _____ I prayed; God answered g. semicolon
18. _____ “Jesus Loves Me” h. hyphen

The four types of sentences:
A declarative sentence tells something.
An interrogative sentence asks a question.
An imperative sentence gives a command or makes a request.
An exclamatory sentence shows strong feeling or surprise.

Punctuate each sentence correctly. Label each with its type.

19. _______________ What did Thomas Edison invent
20. _______________ Thomas Edison is likely a familiar name to everyone
21. _______________ Oh no, it’s raining again
22. _______________ Look on the bright side of life

Look out for these troublesome verbs:
Do not use . . .

► aren’t I—use am I not instead
► better for had better
► ain’t

Correct the sentences.

23. I better take these books back to the library today.
24. Jon said he was coming this afternoon but he ain’t here yet.
25. I am riding with you to summer Bible school, aren’t I?

**Penmanship**

Use your best handwriting.

26. Write each spelling word once.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>the meaning</th>
<th>miscellaneous words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aborigine</td>
<td>vestige</td>
<td>chagrin</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>fanatic</td>
<td>grandeur</td>
<td>impromptu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Write the spelling word with the correct definition.

27. The telemarketer tried to persuade Kay to change phone companies, saying his company would give her a better deal.
   a. __________________________ to use threats and bullying to make someone agree
   b. __________________________ to cause someone to do something by argument or pleading

28. Caricatures of Theodore Roosevelt emphasized his large smile and gave him a mouth full of teeth; someone once sent him a letter addressed with only a large toothy smile, and he received it.
   a. __________________________ a picture that exaggerates the physical features of a person
   b. __________________________ an early type of photograph

29. When her brother came to visit unexpectedly, Marianne decided to have an impromptu gathering; most of their friends came in spite of the short notice.
   a. __________________________ done on the spur of the moment, unplanned
   b. __________________________ unimportant

30. Losing ten points on his exam because he had not followed directions caused Keith to feel chagrin.
   a. __________________________ exhibiting an attitude of cheerfulness
   b. __________________________ a feeling of shame or mortification

31. My grandma still has her first doll—a tangible reminder of her childhood.
   a. __________________________ antique    b. __________________________ touchable

32. Don and Norma Wood went along as chaperones on our last chorus trip.
   a. __________________________ older person who accompanies young people to ensure good behavior
   b. __________________________ director of a group of singers
33. El Niño is a **phenomenon** that affects weather in many parts of the world.
   a. __________________ strange ocean current
   b. __________________ observable event in nature, especially one that is unusual or interesting

34. WD40 is a **versatile** lubricant—it was originally developed at a rocket center for a special use, but soon workers were carrying it home to use around their houses and shops.
   a. __________________ having many uses
   b. __________________ valuable

35. The minister greeted us with a smile and a **cordial** handshake.
   a. __________________ strong, hearty
   b. __________________ warm, friendly

36. Did you notice the **exquisite** detail on that Albrecht Dürer painting?
   a. __________________ having delicate beauty; finely done
   b. __________________ absurd and ridiculous; unnatural

37. We planned our trip north to **coincide** with the family reunion being held there.
   a. __________________ to avoid
   b. __________________ to happen at the same time

38. Johan was still chuckling at his own joke, but Dietrich’s next question wiped the last **vestige** of the smile from his face.
   a. __________________ trace
   b. __________________ resemblance

39. Nearly everywhere Europeans explored and settled, they mistreated the **aborigines**.
   a. __________________ North American Indians
   b. __________________ the original inhabitants of a place

40. The small boys at church look on Gene as something of a **phenomenon** because he can wiggle his ears.
   a. __________________ someone very unusual or remarkable
   b. __________________ important

**Write the spelling word with its definition.**

- **enthusiastic**
- **fanatic**
- **curiosity**
- **grandeur**
- **dilapidated**
- **lieutenant**
- **parentheses**

41. __________________ one who is overly serious or enthusiastic about something
42. __________________ a strong interest in finding out something
43. __________________ a military officer
44. __________________ full of excitement and interest
45. __________________ splendor
46. __________________ fallen or broken down from lack of care
47. __________________ a pair of curved lines used in writing to set apart a word or phrase within a sentence
Lesson 2

Nouns

A noun is a word that names a person, place, thing, or idea. Nouns are either common or proper. A common noun names any person, place, thing, or idea. A proper noun names a specific person, place, or thing, and is always capitalized.

- **person:** girl, mayor, grandmother, carpenter, Mary
- **place:** Africa, meadow, continent, Boise, store
- **thing:** desk, ship, penguin, Statue of Liberty, secret
- **idea:** honesty, peace, thoughts, courage, happiness

A compound noun is two or more words that name a single item. Compound nouns may be written as one word, as separate words, or as hyphenated words. Compound nouns may also be common or proper.

- Thomas Edison brother-in-law quicksand
- prairie dog Call of the Wild Yellowstone National Park

A collective noun is singular in form, but names a group of things or people. Collective nouns may be common or proper.

- team class herd
- mob Congress majority

Underline the common nouns. Circle the proper nouns.

1. Mother engine pilot Chicago Mayflower church William courtesy White House Civil War

Underline the compound nouns. Circle the collective nouns.

2. paper clip jury committee schoolteacher Parliament Albert Einstein flock light-year

Underline the nouns.

3. Gideon defeated a huge army with his little band of three hundred men.
4. Greta fastened the money inside the hem of her skirt, using a big safety pin.
5. The American colonies fought for eight years to gain their independence from England.

Concrete and Abstract Nouns

*Concrete nouns* name things that you can see, touch, hear, smell, or taste.

- sunset ground waterfall roses salt

*Abstract nouns* name ideas, qualities, thoughts, or feelings—things that are not perceived by the five senses.

- honesty courage excitement freedom love
Tell whether the noun is **concrete** (c) or **abstract** (a).

6. ___ encyclopedia  
10. ___ knowledge  
7. ___ respect  
11. ___ confusion  
8. ___ mercy  
12. ___ strawberries  
9. ___ clouds  
13. ___ friendship

**We Remember**

Underline the verbs and verb phrases. Write **action** or **being**.

14. __________ Christmas is on a Thursday this year.  
15. __________ Thomas Alva Edison was born on February 11, 1847.  
16. __________ As a child, Thomas Edison was always tinkering with chemicals.  
17. __________ Mud was on Kent’s clothes, face, hands and feet, and even in his hair.

Follow the directions.

18. List the eight being verbs.  

19. Complete the list of verbs that are sometimes helping verbs.

   have  __________  __________  do  __________  did

20. Complete the list of verbs that are always helping verbs.

   shall   will __________  might  must  must  can  __________  __________  __________

Write the letter of the punctuation mark needed for each.

21. ___ May 15 2003  
   a. period  
   f. colon  
22. ___ Dear Sir  
   b. comma  
   g. hyphen  
23. ___ would’ve  
   c. exclamation point  
24. ___ Springfield Missouri  
   d. apostrophe  
25. ___ infor  
   e. quotation marks  
   mation

**Review these rules:**

Do not use a double negative—two words that both mean **no**.  
Do not use **used to could**—use **used to be able to**.

**Correct the sentences.**

26. Matthew can’t hardly wait until Christmas vacation.  
27. Grandpa said, “I used to could recite ‘The Village Blacksmith,’ but I’ve forgotten most of it.”  
28. Grant Street has been blocked off and you can’t get through there no more.
Penmanship

Copy the quotation from Thomas Edison in your best handwriting.

29. “Imagination supplies the ideas; technical knowledge carries them out.”

Spelling . . . the usage

Write a form of the correct spelling word to complete each sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>vestige</th>
<th>fanatic</th>
<th>curiosity</th>
<th>cordial</th>
<th>persuade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

30. Her ___________ welcome made us feel at home immediately.
31. We did our best to ___________ Dad to hike the five-mile trail with us.
32. Janine is a horse ___________ ; she has pictures of horses and books about horses all over her room.
33. ___________ of color remained in the sky long after the sun had gone down.
34. Where did that saying “___________ killed the cat” originate?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>chagrin</th>
<th>exquisite</th>
<th>versatile</th>
<th>parentheses</th>
<th>aborigine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

35. Don’t forget to put ___________ around the prepositional phrases.
36. The boomerang was a weapon used by the ___________ of Australia.
37. Ben’s face was a picture of ___________ when he landed in a mud puddle.
38. The lilac, with ___________ petals and pleasant smell, is a favorite of many people.
39. Because of William’s many abilities, he made a ___________ employee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>tangible</th>
<th>dilapidated</th>
<th>chaperone</th>
<th>grandeur</th>
<th>caricature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

40. In the 1800s, Honore Daumier drew a famous ___________ of King Louis Philippe of France as a giant pear; the king had him imprisoned.
41. Our ___________ on the tour added to the enjoyment of the trip.
42. The detective was convinced that the man was guilty, but could find no ___________ evidence connecting him with the crime.
43. We stood at the edge of the falls, mesmerized by the ___________ of God’s creation.
44. Despite the ___________ condition of the house, we were pleased with our new property.

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<th>phenomenon</th>
<th>coincide</th>
<th>lieutenant</th>
<th>impromptu</th>
<th>enthusiastic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

45. Though he’d had no time to prepare, Dave’s ___________ speech was good.
46. The ___________ of the Northern Lights is rarely seen as far south as Virginia.
47. All the eighth graders were ___________ about the upcoming school campout.
48. Our neighbor’s son who is in the army was recently promoted to second ___________.
49. Only two people witnessed the accident, and their stories do not ___________.
